

GAU 1633

RECEIVED

Applicant:

Ashkenazi et al.

Serial No.:

09/096,500

Filed:

06/12/98

n/a

Notice of

Allow. Date:

Due Date:

09/12/98

Title:

APO-2DCR

MAR 1 5 1999 40

Examiner:

Not Assigned

Group Art Unit:

Docket:

11669.29US03

Batch No.:

n/a

1633

MAR 1 8 1999

MATRIX CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 7, 1999.

Diane L. Marschang

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

Other: Information Disclosure Statemente; Form PTO-1449; 1 reference; copy of PCT Search Report issued in related PCT case.

Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13–2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

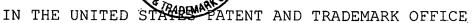
MERCHANT, GOULD, SMITH, EDELL, WELTER & SCHMIDT 3100 Norwest Center, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612) 332-5300

Name: Diane L. Marschang

Reg. No.: 35,600

DM:mm

S/N 09/096,500



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By: <u>Diane L. Marschang</u>

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action onthe-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy the Mongkolsapaya et al. reference (no. 264, as listed on the enclosed Form 1449) is provided; and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), a copy of each other document or other information listed is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in related application, U.S. Serial No. 08/878,168 filed on 06/18/97.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashkenazi et al.,

By their Attorneys,

MERCHANT, GOULD, SMITH, EDELL WELTER & SCHMIDT, P.A. 3100 Norwest Center 90 South Seventh Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 (612) 332-5300

Date: March 9 1999

Diane L. Marschang

Reg. No. 35,600

DLM/mm